

Storm Water

Minimizing Surface Disturbance—EnCana

July 2006

Increasing levels of oil and gas drilling in Region 8 States have elevated concern about environmental impacts related to the construction associated with exploration and production activities. The clearing of land for drill rigs, access roads and support facilities causes impacts such as:

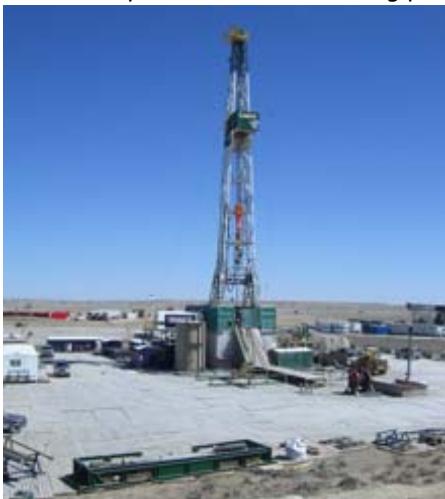
- Loss of vegetation and animal habitat
- Increases in storm water runoff which can lead to bank erosion in nearby rivers
- Increased levels of dust

In an effort to minimize site disturbance while maximizing field development, EnCana has started using Oak Mats to create an artificial surface for drilling and completion operations.

- Cost effective alternative to multi-well pad directional drilling
- Top soil is not stripped
- Reclamation time is expedited due to minimal impact on native vegetation
- Timely reclamation is critical to continued drilling approval in Jonah
- 11 wells drilled with 6 having been completed and on final production
- 2 more pilot sections scheduled



7 foot by 14 foot oak mats being placed on top of native vegetation. Approximately 600 mats used per drilling site.



Left: Drilling operation atop an oak-mat pad.

Right: Vegetation at well location after oak mats have been moved to another location.





Above shows previous mat locations where three wells were drilled and completed. Mats were removed two weeks prior to the time of photograph.



July 2006

energy for people